

WO-346
Marvel House
Ocean City
Private

c. 1904

The Marvel house is a distinctive two-and-a-half story frame dwelling supported on a raised and rusticated concrete block foundation. Most unusual are the cast concrete Ionic columns that support the porch roof. The only other example of these columns in Ocean City is found on the John Dale Showell house (WO-332) located on North Divison Street. The frame house follows a modest expression of the four-square house type with its side entrance and steeply pitched hip roof.

Construction of the Marvel house is estimated to date to the early years of the twentieth century after May M. Marvel purchased this Baltimore Avenue lot in September of 1903. While the lot was described at that time as unimproved, it was sold three years later to Margaret Trimper with improvements.

HISTORIC CONTEXT INFORMATION

Resource Name: Marvel House

MHT Inventory Number: VO-346

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE HISTORIC PRESERVATION PLAN DATA:

1) Historic Period Theme(s):

Architecture

2) Geographic Orientation:

Eastern Shore

3) Chronological/Developmental Period(s):

Industrial/Urban Dominance

4) Resource Type(s):

(1870-1930)

Standing Structure

1. Single-Family Dwelling

Maryland Historical Trust State Historic Sites Inventory Form

Survey No. WO-346

Magi No.

DOE ☐yes ☐no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic MARVEL HOUSE

and/or common ~~Marvel House~~

2. Location

street & number 8 Baltimore Avenue ☐ not for publicationcity, town Ocean City ☐ vicinity of congressional district First

state Maryland county Worcester

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private residence
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
			<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Madison Development Corporation

street & number telephone no.:

city, town state and zip code

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Worcester County Clerk of Court liber 830

street & number Worcester County Courthouse folio 399

city, town Snow Hill state MD 21863

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title

date ☐ federal ☐ state ☐ county ☐ local

pository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Survey No. W0-346

Condition

☐ excellent
☒ good
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated
☐ ruins
☐ unexposed

Check one

☐ unaltered
☒ altered

Check one

☒ original site
☐ moved date of move _____

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

The Marvel house stands at 8 North Baltimore Avenue in the center of Ocean City, Worcester County, Maryland. The raised two-and-a-half story, two-bay frame house faces west with the hip roof oriented on an east/west axis.

Built around 1903, this two-and-a-half story, two-bay frame house, clad with a uniform layer of plain weatherboards, is covered by a steeply pitched asphalt shingle roof. The house is supported on a raised concrete block foundation that comprises the ground floor.

The west (main) elevation is an asymmetrical elevation with a side entrance and a flanking single-pane sash window. A rectangular colored glass window fills the small space to the left of the partially glazed front door. Sheltering the first floor is a raised hip roof porch that stretches around to the south side of the dwelling. Supported on rusticated concrete block piers, the porch is distinguished by cast concrete columns with cast Ionic capitals. A turned baluster handrail extends between the porch piers. The second floor is marked by a pair of unevenly spaced single-pane sash windows. Marking the west roof slope is a large hip roof dormer with paired single-pane sash windows.

The south elevation is a four-bay facade with the ground and first floors sheltered by the Ionic columned porch. Lighting the second floor are four single-pane sash windows, and a large hip roofed dormer with three single-pane sash windows marks the roof.

The north side is detailed in a similar manner. The interior was not seen.

8. Significance

Survey No. WO-346

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates

Builder/Architect

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☒ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

The Marvel house is a distinctive two-and-a-half story frame dwelling supported on a raised concrete block foundation. Most unusual are the cast concrete Ionic columns that support the porch roof. The only other example of these columns is found on the John Dale Showell house (WO-332) located on North Division Street. The frame house follows a modest expression of the four-square house type with its side entrance and steeply pitched hip roof.

HISTORY AND SUPPORT

Construction of the Marvel house is estimated to date to the early years of the twentieth century after May M. Marvel purchased this Baltimore Avenue lot in September of 1903.(FHP 24/564) While the lot was described at that time as unimproved, it was sold three years later with improvements to Margaret Trimper.(FHP 25/136)

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. W0-346

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name _____

Quadrangle scale _____

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A

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Zone Easting Northing

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Zone Easting Northing

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H

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Verbal boundary description and justification

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
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11. Form Prepared By

name/title Paul B. Touart, Architectural Historian

organization Worcester County date 2/15/90

street & number Worcester County Courthouse telephone 301-632-1194

city or town Snow Hill state MD 21863

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
Shaw House
21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 269-2438

WO-346
MARVEL HOUSE
8 Baltimore Avenue
Ocean City, Maryland
Chain of title

830/399 Damon E. Morselander and Anna E., his wife
to

8/15/1982 Madison Development Corporation
\$73,500 easterly side of Baltimore Ave.
between North Division St. and North First
Street

FWH 137/186 Anna P. Lewis
to

6/21/1960 Damon E. Morselander, and Anna E., his wife

CWN 16/93 Lloyd I. Hudson, Anna C., his wife
to

6/4/1947 Anna P. Lewis
east side of Baltimore Ave. between North
Division St. and North First Street together
with improvements

BB 32/186 Margaret T. Selby, widow et al.
to

6/28/1937 Lloyd I. Hudson, and Anna C. his wife
known as Lot 3 in Block 1 North formerly
property of Margaret Trimper, deceased
with improvements

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Page 2

MARVEL HOUSE

9 Baltimore Avenue

Chain of title continued

FHP 25/136

May M. Marvel and Wilber F., husband

to

5/26/1906

Margaret Trimper

Lot 3 Block 1 North with improvements
\$210

FHP 24/564

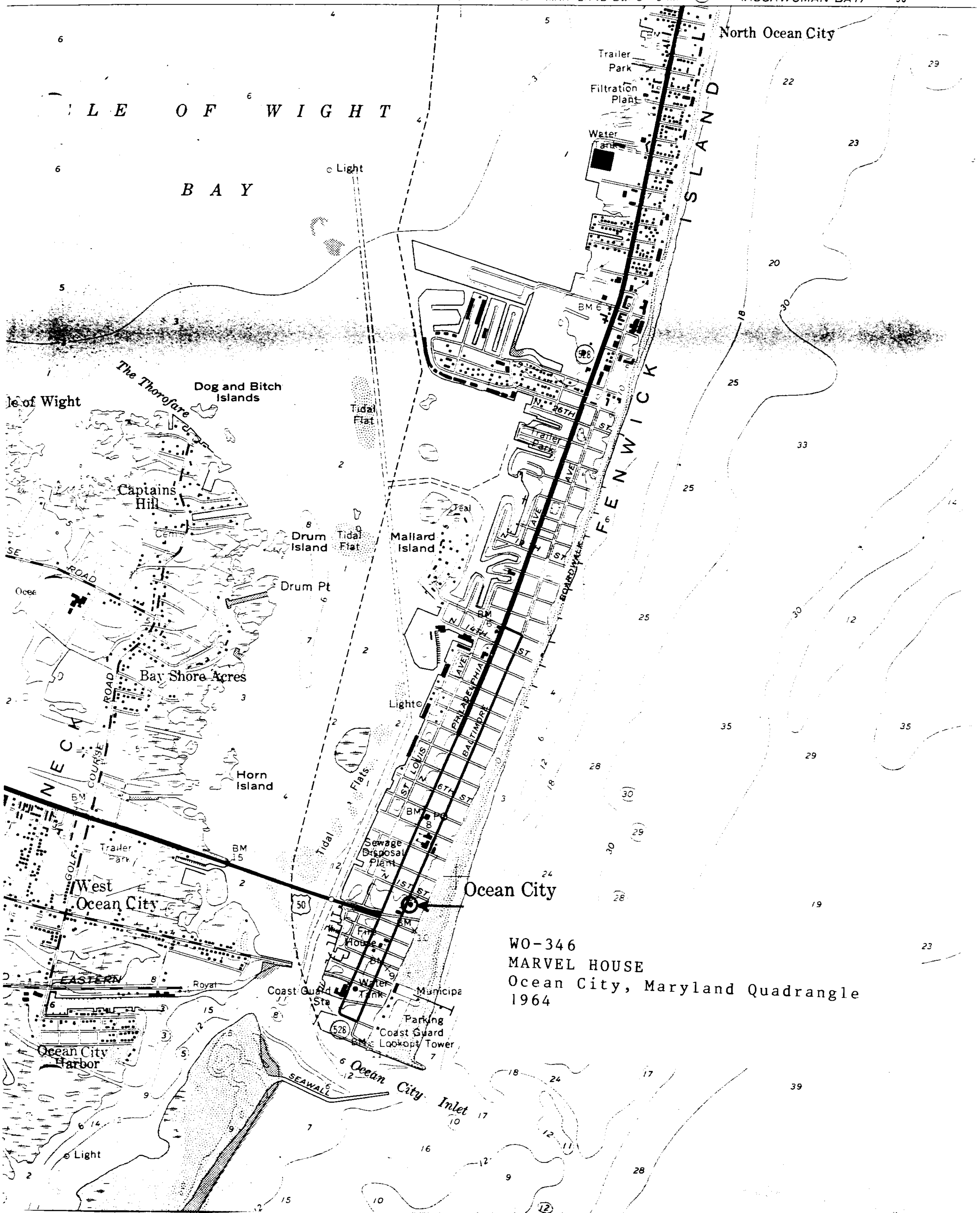
Oscar M. Purnell, Emma J., wife

to

9/19/1903

May M. Marvel

\$150 lot (no improvements named)



WO-346
MARVEL HOUSE
Ocean City, Maryland Quadrangle
1964